



Department of Justice

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Fort Totten Man Sentenced for Sexually Abusing a Minor

FARGO - Acting United States Attorney Lynn Jordheim announced that on February 26, 2010, **Laidman Joseph Fox III**, of Fort Totten, North Dakota, was sentenced before United States District Court Chief Judge Ralph R. Erickson on a charge of sexual abuse of a minor.

Fox III, 21, pleaded guilty on December 11, 2009, to engaging in a sexual act with a juvenile female who at the time was 12 but not yet 16 years of age and was at least four years younger than **Fox III**. The incident occurred on June 25, 2007, on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation at a residence where both **Fox III** and the victim were socializing with friends.

Judge Erickson sentenced **Fox III** to two years and ten months' imprisonment to be followed by five years of supervised release. **Fox III** was ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$1,407.20, to pay a \$100 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund, and to register as a sex offender.

"This young man took responsibility for his unlawful actions and apologized to the victim and family at sentencing. Unfortunately, words cannot undo the permanent harm suffered by the victim of this senseless crime," stated Assistant U.S. Attorney Janice M. Morley.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Assistant United States Attorney Janice M. Morley prosecuted the case.

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